

KC DX NEWS

AB0X-EDITOR

KCDXC Website: <http://www.kcdxclub.com/>

March 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

Dayton Canceled- March Meeting Canceled-AB0X
KCDXC DXCC Honor Roll-AB0X
5BDXCC, 40 Year Quest- K0XM
DX News & Views: -AB0X
W0AR & N0SS Results- N0AG & K0VXU
KCDXC Minutes from Feb. Meeting- K0THN



NEXT KCDXC MEETING: March 30-MEETING CANCELED!!!

The March meeting has been canceled. The Central Resource Library 9875 W 87th Street in Overland Park KS, has closed their facility to large meetings. The famous Pie Eating Contest will re-convene after the next actual KCDXC meeting.

WATCH FOR EMAIL AND NEWSLETTER NOTICES CONCERNING THE APRIL MEETING!

2020 KCDXC DUES!

All KCDXC members are reminded to send in their 2020 dues. Our KCDXC web page has a Paypal link on it to pay dues with, if desired. Scroll to the bottom of the web page. Also, dues can be mailed to [W0ZAP, RICHARD D PARENT, 5011 West 155th Terrace, OVERLAND PARK, KS 66224-3813](#), USA. Of course, our new Treasurer will accept your cash or check at the next KCDXC meeting. KCDXC dues remain at \$20!

DAYTON HAMVENTION CANCELED!!

On March 15th Dayton Hamvention officials from DARA announced the cancellation of Hamvention 2020. Ohio emergency regulations restricted the size of public meetings in Ohio. The 20K normal size of the Hamvention far exceeds the minimum safe number allowed in the state. Most likely Hamvention is the largest single, live event in Ohio. Luckily, no KCDXC members who reserved rooms thru our contract with Crowne Plaza will have to worry about waiting weeks for refunds for rooms.

LOCAL HAMBASH HAMFEST CANCELED ALSO!

The Shriner's Hambash Hamfest scheduled for mid April has just sent out notices that they are also cancelling the Hambash. See their web page for details on refunds for flea market tables and ticket refunds.

The KCDXC Honor Roll was created 40 years ago when I became the editor of the newsletter. There are no official club guidelines for the Honor Roll as it was AB0X's copyrighted feature. It has operated on the honor system. The numbers shown are whatever the DX Club member tells the Editor. Only active, paid up members will be listed . The same goes for the KCDXC Honor Roll on our web page handled by W0XE -AB0X

KCDXC DXCC HONOR ROLL

Call	Mixed	CW	Phone	DIGI	IOTA	160	6 M DXCC	DX Challenge
AB0X	357	353	349	232		225	23	2374
W0GJ	354	344	354	292		236	20	2799
N0RB	352	346	350				23	1806
K0CA	350	349	350	331	318	112		2631
N0CWR	350	349	350	326	975	202	48	2890
NX0I	350	349	347	244		208	4	2502
K3PA	350	348	345	319		186	36	2728
K0HQW	349	333	347			33		1352
KS0DX	347	318	348	129	360			2218
K4SV	346	340	344	337		301	87	2852
AC0A	348	318	348		838		15	2223
K0VXU	348	335	331	265	439	143	2	2295
K0GY	344	340	344	290			5	2295
KB0X	336							
K0AP	334	331	325	295		47	5	2353
W0QQ	334	231	332	193	151	110		1706
K4SX	331	277	314	146		52		1617
KE5BR	330	177	297	79				742
WA0WOF	330							
K0THN	329	314	284		179	1		
W0MB	325	229	324	251				1849
W0FS	322	270	295	230	657	181		1165
K0XM	321	282	274	42	26			1770
AA0MZ	312	290	292	220	532	44	20	1296
AC0C	310	306	267	243	160	128	3	1852
NS0D	263	219	142	130		3	2	
W0XE	248	216	193	14				833
AD0K	226	214	80	85	183	22	3	888
W0DR	225	188	174	5		5	7	622
N9GB	203							
KS0AA	172	75	84	154		3		507
W0ZAP	144	34	72	77		5	5	218
WD0SRI	63	17	56			1	1	

Red indicates member is at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll in that respective class. Totals are with deletions.

NOTE: When changes of DXCC totals are sent in to me, they are immediately updated in the next month here in the newsletter. Send to ab0x@kc.rr.com . All updates are shared with W0XE, for the KCDXC web page. Please only one update a month.

5BDXCC
A 40YR QUEST...
OR HOW I FINALLY REALIZED
I NEED HF AND DX TO FEEL GOOD...

CHUCK KRALY, KØXM

Our story starts with a wee little lad, raised on the rough streets of Kansas City Kansas during the 60's. A cynical time, and a volatile time for sure. Trying to find his place in the world, he venture through various activities both good and bad. Finally his junior year in High School, he got the chance to find a niche he fit into. Going to KCKAVTS for a degree in Electronics he stumbled upon 2 Ham Radio Operators. He had been exposed while a youngin, by his neighbor Earl WØQPL. Earl would run phone patches for the soldiers during the Vietnam War and it could wipe out Channel 5 and his dad would just hate that he missed his favorite tv shows when this happened.

These elmers were different, One was Bill, WAØCBW who taught the class, and the other was Dave WBØOUE. For some unknown reason they took me under their wings and helped me get my ticket (so yea...blame THEM). I started out as a Tech in 1979 and while 2mtrs and 220 had a place, once I got on HF and made my 1st ever qso, with JA1AZS in cw, I was hooked. Next came the contesting. Back then we had the Novice Roundup which was a week long contest. I was married with a newborn so this would be perfect. Play radio, which was a TS520S into a 15mtr dipole on the roof of the duplex we lived in, when I had a chance, and keep everyone happy. I just wanted to play and make qso's. I submitted that 1st contest result and was surprised when I took 1st place Kansas Tech in the contest. Hook number 2 had been set. The log book was filling up with both US and DX qso's. I found out you can get easy DX qso's during a contest to help the count, and even more so on Sunday's being a little pistol and all. I have never ran an amp, and have relied on antennas. I went through dipoles, to a KT34XA/G5RV combo, to a C3SS F12 beam with a Colatcho 80/160 vert, to a C4XL and the Colatcho.

I was fortunate to have a lot of elmers in the KCDX Club with Fred NØXA, Bill AKØA, Johnny WØJM, Herb KZ6E, Mike ABØX, Larry KØRWL, John Chass WØJLC, Lee KØLW, lord too many to name. Bill and Mike kept telling me the "good" dx was in the extra portion. And I found out that was true at times. With contesting (Number 1 40SSB WPX USA as NØBIW is a good memory), and parking at the radio, I worked a lot of band countries. The problem though is I really didn't send cards out, and it cost me. ZL1AMO, VK9NS expeditions I worked and no cards. That would bite hard. As time passed and after a 15 yr break from HF, I got back into it. I started working mobile HF cw and getting the confirmations in hand. LOTW helped a ton, and I started hanging wallpaper and the certs arrived. I also found out that while I was gone, I have a whole new set of Carribean Countries to work and they some were deleted and set as ATNO's. I set the goal of trying to complete and get my 5B plaque by the end of 2019. That would be 40 yrs of being licensed. SO, after all the times in front of the radio, and all the trying to make up for lost confirmations, I met that goal. It took a lot of contests, and late nights (especially on 80), and learning a lot about propagation and how to "be there" when the band was open to where I needed. But with us being in the low part of a Solar Cycle, I am glad I had a chance while the SunSpots were up. Some of us can remember working say ZD8 on 10 mtrs and then immediately swinging the beam 180 degrees and nabbing 9N. But, the plaque is on the wall, and it is surrounded but the other DXCC Certs, and onward to Digital, and 160 Mtrs. 12 Mtrs may be a fluke if I do achieve it. And 17 and 30 should not be too bad. But time will tell.....

Thanks to every one who pushed and helped along the way, but my 40 yr quest has been done....

What does the future hold? Contesting, DXing and more contesting. I FINALLY got a new radio (IC7610) and while I am in a rental, I am working on the low band antennas, and finalizing them who ever I can here. Right now I have 100w into a 160M Inverted L at 30' on the apex, and then a 6BTV for the upper bands. As always, if not on FT8 (which we did not have last time around for me), then CW is king for the DX QSO's. -KØXM



DX NEWS & VIEWS

BY ABØX

Around the horn:

At Press time the Dayton Hamvention has just canceled activities for this year. Contest University, DX Dinner, Topband Dinner and the Contest Dinner have all been canceled.

The Ham Com in Dallas is still scheduled for June 12th. Contact NØRB, if you have questions concerning the event. See page 9 of this issue.

KCDXC MEMBERS PRACTICING SELF QUARANTINE!!!

KCDXC members have been practicing safe health care for years! Long before the Corona 19 Virus, we have been self-quarantining ourselves in small rooms, away from our family members and the public for long periods of time with little or no contact with the outside world, especially during contest season and DXpeditions. The KCDXC is proud to be ahead of the curve!

DX NEWS

3YØI BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS (and PACIFIC TOUR). The Rebel DX Group (RDXG) team reports/posted the following (<https://bouvetoya.org/>) on March 11th [edited]: A bunch of fresh news from the 3YØI - Bouvet Island camp. Although we're still \$25k short of our required budget, we arrange and follow things up according to our plans. A have already paid down-payment for our vessel. We also analyzed all conclusions collected during the

1st attempt. We have already verified, prepared and stored our expedition and radio gear. Actually we're just waiting for the coming Southern hemisphere's summer to "set sails" again.

Our 2nd attempt to "conquer" the remotest island in the world - Bouvet Island - will take place by end of 2020.

We strongly encourage to support our project via our GoFundMe page at (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/3y0i-bouvet-island-expedition>). The website constantly updates and displays names and callsigns of each donor who decide to back up our plans.

We are very very thankful for all donations sent by all of our current supporters!

As announced before, we're up to our next project and about to leave for the Pacific IOTA tour by end of March. As a local tropical cyclone season withdraws, once arrived at Fiji we will check our Rebel's catamaran and prepare it for a long 1 month+ oceanic voyage. Expect the launch of the T33T Banaba and T22T Tuvalu project by late April/beginning of May 2020.

We welcome our new gear supporter - The Adjustiwave Antennas. Their antennas' sector is simplicity and durability and we're going to use their verticals as additional and backup aerials during our Pacific tour. Take a look at their website to learn more about these self-erected vertical multibanders: <https://adjustiwave.com>

73 and fingers crossed!

The RDXG Team

For more details and updates on the Bouvet Island DXpedition, watch the following Web page and Media sites at:

This is the main site where you can find more details on the project and news: <https://bouvetoya.org>

8Q, MALDIVES (Reminder). Noel, F6BGC, is now active as 8Q7NC from Veligandu Island, Rashdoo Atoll, in the Maldives Islands (WW Loc. MJ64MH, IOTA AS-013) until March 21st. Activity will be holiday style (Suitcase Expedition) on 80-10 meters (depending on conditions) with 100w and a vertical, using all modes CW, SSB, and the Digital modes. QSL via F6BGC, direct or LotW. More information at: <https://www.qrz.com/db/8Q7NC>

KH4, MIDWAY ISLAND (Update). Ron, KH6DV, posted on March 14th, the following on QRZ.com: "We all know that one of the easiest ways to catch a respiratory infection is to travel by airline, visit a hospital or clinic waiting room, or pass through an airport. Expedition operators aren't going to want to travel while this pandemic is active, then get on a boat with cramped quarters and undertake a 6+ day voyage with others who have also traveled.

I've been looking for Coronavirus forecasts, and have finally found what looks like a reliable one. An expert who has accurately predicted other pandemic time-lines stated on February 11th that the Coronavirus would burn itself out in 6 months. He didn't state if that was 6 months from discovery or 6 months from the date of his statement. Using 6 months from the date of his statement, travel should be safe by the end of the first week in August. We are assuming that, because travel for our expedition will be almost two months later, THE EXPEDITION WILL BE UNAFFECTED."

Thanks, to Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin!

STRANGE ... BUT TRUE! More Unusual Events of KCDXC History and Lore

By AB0X

FIRE! FIRE!

Many DXers have heard K5UR, Rick, speak at hamfests and meetings. He spoke at the W0DXCC Convention that the KCDXC sponsored a few years ago. Rick is a polished and entertaining speaker. K5UR usually slips in the true story in his presentations about

the time he started a fire in his backyard when his 160 Meter antenna arced over and set fire to his grass. He describes the events with much humor and includes details about trying to put out the fire in the dark with his garden hose.

The first time I heard this story many years ago I thought it was hilarious but thought it probably could never happen to 99.9% of the average ham population. Conditions had to be just right for it to occur.

Two summers ago I decided one, hot and windy August day I would reinstall the Omega match tuning unit on my tower for 80 Meters I had used in the past very successfully. The relay had died in the plastic box I used to house the original matching network, so I had removed it from the side of the tower. That fateful day, out of boredom, I had decided to rebuild the Omega match tuning unit with thoughts of great DX in the colder months ahead. The Omega match is popular because it requires 2 variable caps but generally of small amounts of capacitance as compared to the more common gamma match matching unit attached to a shunt feed on the tower. I re-soldered the wiring between the two variables in a new plastic box and began guessing the approximate amount of capacitance of each variable based on past experiences. Surprisingly enough, I couldn't find the sweet spot and couldn't get the SWR down to a good match. The best I could get by trial and error was about 2.5:1 at 3.510 MHZ. All of this was done with 100 watts to the antenna. I decided to give it the gas and switched in the Alpha 9500 into the circuit and see if the SWR was still pretty good at 1.5K watts.

The amp belched once as it tried to auto retune, but didn't shut down and cause heart failure on my part. However, the SWR seemed higher and indicated a narrow bandwidth. I shut off the rig and sat there a minute and then retreated to the recliner with thoughts of finishing troubleshooting the matching unit on a cooler day. In front of the TV in the family room next to my shack I flopped into the recliner and had just gotten relaxed and comfortable when the phone rang. I seldom answer the landline anymore as it has become mainly a conduit for robo calls. So, I ignored the phone. About 3-4 minutes later, someone was banging on my front door. I crawled out of the recliner and went to the door. When I opened the door my neighbor, Raymond, blurted out hysterically, "Your grass is on fire! Your grass is on fire!"

I told Raymond thanks and ran to the backdoor. Sure enough, the backyard was full of smoke. The flames were not real high but the smoke was thick! The smoke seemed thickest near the base of the tower. I ran to the hose connected to my backyard faucet and cranked the water on full bore. Grabbing the hose I thought it would be a simple matter to extinguish the fire. I picked the hose up and started pointing it at the grass. But I found myself holding a 14" piece of plastic hose. The fire had melted the usual 50' length of hose. I must have looked like an idiot holding this short piece of plastic hose trying to squirt water on the grass fire that was slowly growing in intensity at my feet. I ran around to the front yard and disconnected the hose in the front yard. Running full steam back thru the gate dragging the hose behind me, I quickly attached the second hose to the faucet. It wasn't long before I was able to saturate the grass fire burning around the tower base and the back side of the house. The fire had turned the back deck a dark black and melted one of my new vinyl drain spouts off the guttering. The flames had run down the fence line on both sides of the fence and made the yard look rather horrendous.

A few moments later the district fire captain pulled up in his red sedan lights flashing like serious disaster was in the making. I convinced him all was under control. He asked how it started. I told him I wasn't sure. He noticed the neighbor to the west was grilling out that day. He said he thought maybe an ember from this caused the fire. But he noted it was strange how the burnt grass seemed to encircle the radio tower. I convinced him I would investigate the cause the best that I could. He left reluctantly.

Luckily my wife was gone somewhere when this event occurred. To this day, she believes the neighbor's grill must have caused the fire, but she has never heard K5UR's story about his lowband grass fire!

KCDXC PIRATE WALKS THE PLANK!

When NØXA first installed his 4 element 40M Beam years ago, M² only had a balun guaranteed for 1500 watts. Needless to say, this balun didn't last very long at XA's station. Replacing the balun was a major chore because the driven element was a long way out on that giant boom that was part of the 4 element yagi. It required almost taking the entire antenna down just to reach the feedpoint on the beam. Fred struggled loosening the antenna from the mast and tilting the antenna downward just to reach the bad balun. After several burnt out baluns, NØXA, said “#@%^*#@**\$! It will just sit up there.”

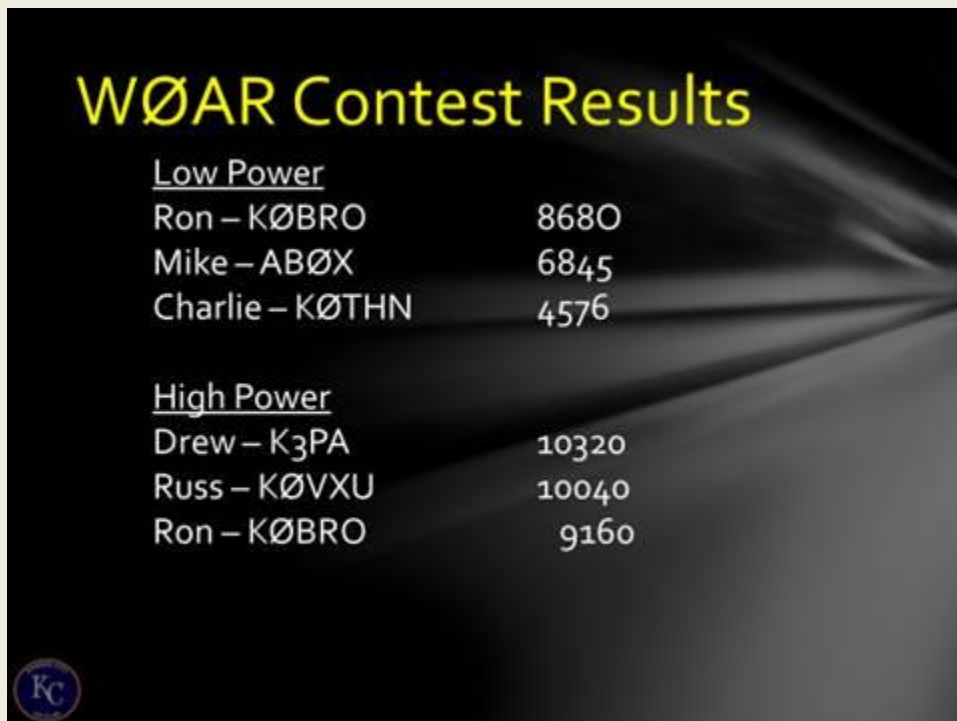
WBØUXI, Larry, longtime KCDXC member, good friend of XA's and an experienced tower jockey convinced NØXA the balun could be changed out without all the hard work. Larry said by just installing a wooden plank (2"x12") off the 45G about 15' long he could reach the balun easily and save countless hours of hard work and expletives. WBØUXI built the wooden device with hooks on the end to slip over a horizontal rung near the top of the tower. He also added a brace underneath for more support.

Larry, attached a 15' long nylon rope tether to his climbing belt and the tower. He had Fred line up the boom parallel with the plank as best he could. Larry stuck the new balun in his pouch on the climbing belt and proceeded to climb the 100' tower. With the tether attached, Larry walked out the wooden plank holding on to the boom with his hands. When he reached the driven element, it only took a few minutes to replace the balun. Larry carefully walked back to the tower and climbed down. Job done! WBØUXI was immediately nicknamed "Pirate."


I quoted Jimmy Buffett's well known song "A Pirate Looks at Forty," to Larry and he loved it! The classic lines: "Yes I am a pirate, two hundred years too late, The cannons don't thunder, there's nothing to plunder, I'm an over-forty victim of fate," says it all.

Shortly, after Larry walked the plank, M² came out with a higher power version of the balun, but the KCDXC "Pirate" will be remembered for walking the plank!-ABØX

WØAR RESULTS FOR 2019



WØAR Contest Results	
<u>Low Power</u>	
Ron – KØBRO	8680
Mike – ABØX	6845
Charlie – KØTHN	4576
<u>High Power</u>	
Drew – K3PA	10320
Russ – KØVXU	10040
Ron – KØBRO	9160



WØAR Contest Results

QRP

Jeff – ACØC	5940
Mike – ABØX	4526

Wires

Charlie – KØTHN	4576
-----------------	------



NØSS CONTEST RESULTS FOR 2019

NØSS Contest Results

LOW Power

Bill – KØVBU	14240
Dave – W7FB	102

High Power

Drew – K3PA	13004
Jeff – ACØC	12662
Russ – KØVXU	6825
Jerry – NXØI	5563
Dragan – KØAP	2961



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!

THANKS TO NØAG FOR COMPILING THE RESULTS!

NEW WØXE LOGGING PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR WØAR!

Don, WØXE, has remodeled his WØAR logging program for 2020 and has sent it out all to all. It is a simple, but highly efficient, record keeping program for WØAR Contest. Contact WØXE at ddevins@kc.rr.com if you missed the email.

DXCC CARD CHECKING AT KCDXC MEETING

AC0A and AB0X are available for DXCC & WAS card checking services at most KCDXC meetings. Please remember to load your cards into the DXCC system on the ARRL web page prior to the meeting and print out the forms for checking. The cost is less and checking is easier for the checkers. Remember to bring a stamped and addressed envelope with the forms for the checkers. Contact the checkers if you have large quantities of cards to be checked prior to the meeting: freeland66215@sbcglobal.net or ab0x@kc.rr.com.

HAMCOM DX DINNER IN DALLAS STILL ON!

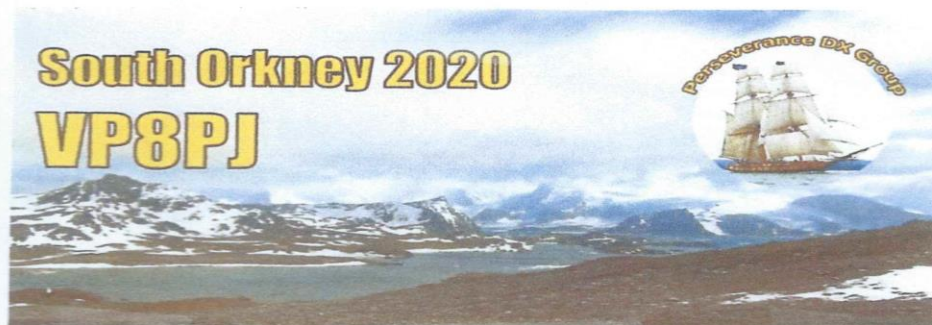
At press time, the DX Dinner at HamCom sponsored by the Lone Star DX Association is still planned as scheduled for June 12. See the flyer below for more info:



LSDXA News



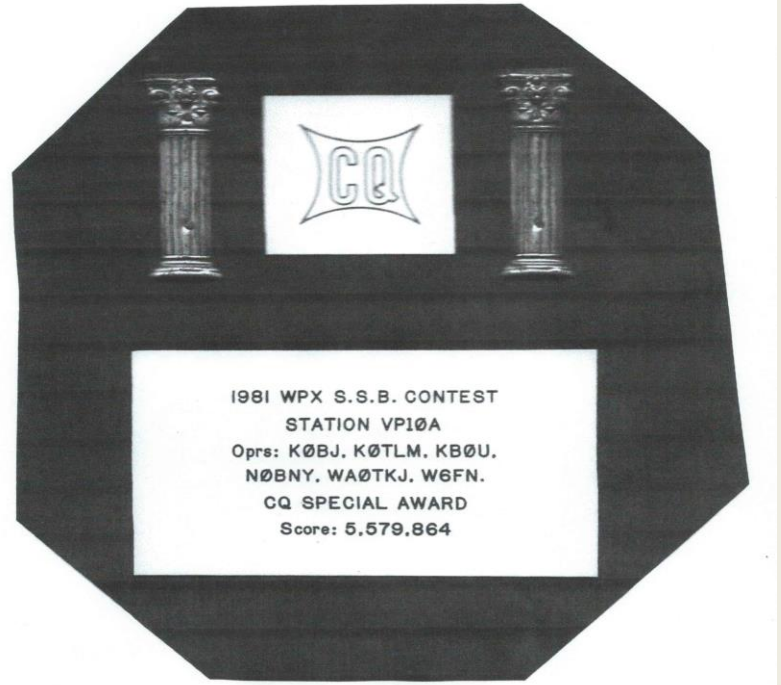
Dave – K3EL – Expedition Leader of So. Orkney Island DX-Pedition, will be our guest speaker at the W5DXCC dinner during Ham Com on June 12, Friday night starting at 5:30 PM happy hour. Tickets are now on sale via the LSDXA.org web site using Pay Pal. Tickets are limited so if your group wants a table together, please let Rick, N0RB know via rick.n0rb@verizon.net. Tickets are \$45.00 each. Checks can be sent to Jim, NT5V at his QRZ. Com address.



Dave was first licensed as G4HJT while in school. He took a break from radio and reentered the hobby as K3EL since the mid-2000s. Dave now enjoys CW rag chewing, occasional contesting, SOTA (chasing and activating), chasing DX, and when possible, being DX. His DX activities include ZL9HR, Campbell Island in 2012, TX5RV, Austral Islands, in 2013, VK9MT, Mellish Reef in 2014, the 2016 Heard Island DXpedition VK0EK (radio team lead), TX5EG, Marquesas, 2017 and the 2018 VP6D Ducie Island DXpedition (expedition lead). Dave is a life member of the ARRL, a member of the Frankford Radio Club, A-1 Ops, the Chiltern DX Club and NCDXF.

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING





February 24, 2020



Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes

Carmack Community Room, Central Resource Library, Overland Park, KS

The February, 2020 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order by President Russ Woirhaye, KØVXU at 6:04 pm CST (February 25, 0004 UTC).

Agenda -

- Greeting and Introduction of Guests
- DXing and Contesting
- WØAR and NØSS 2019 Contest Results
- Presentation Grounding by Robin Cross WØFEN
- Closing Informal Pie Eating and Tall-Tale Telling @ Dennys at 105th and Metcalf (Perkins has closed)

Introductions -

We introduced ourselves. Guests present were: KGØUH Dick Rome WELCOME

DXing for March

Based on NG3K website: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Among the best mentioned were EXØQR Kyrgystan, 3B9AN Rodriques Is, PQØS St. Peter and Paul (one weekend only), T3ØET W. Kiribati and VU4R Andaman and Nicobar Is. (rare).

Contesting for March

Based on WA7BNM website: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

QSO Parties SC, NAQP RTTY, NC, OK, ID, WI, FA, FOC (open to all)

CQWW WPX SSB

W0AR and N0SS Contest Results will be published in the KCDX Club newsletter so they won't be repeated here.

Presentation

Grounding by Robin Cross W0FEN

I suggest you look at Robin's www.QRZ.com webpage for lots of interesting stuff.

Robin began his presentation by presenting some interesting facts. He stated that a typical lightning bolt produces a current of 100,000 amps so it is very important to provide a very low resistance path to ground to avoid a significant voltage rise entering the house.

Some guidelines

- Every conductor entering the house should be protected and tied to the main electrical service line if practical
- Keep bend radiuses to a minimum of 8"

He described some lightning arrestor systems for commercial towers that were pretty sophisticated.

Cad Weld connection methods were described. We've seen these before. They look fun to implement.

Following comments by Russ, K0VXU

Russ talked for a while about learning how transpacific fiber optic cables were laid. They require an amplifier every 60 km or so and they are surprisingly connected in series with the cable jacket being the conductor. Then a very good Earth ground is made at each end to complete the circuit. When you think about it the ohms per square resistance of the earth from any point to any other point should be fairly constant depending on local soil conditions only. I'll bet it's a pretty noisy resistor though.

Then Russ called to memory many of our club members who have become Silent Keys.

Chuck Kraly, K0XM showed off his recently achieved ARRL Five Band DXCC plaque. Congratulations, Chuck.

Announcements

If you want to update your DX status on the web site or in the newsletter contact Don, W0XE or Mike, AB0X .

If you need a ride or you know of someone who needs a ride to our meetings let Russ, K0VXU know. We would like to make sure everyone who wishes to attend can do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Charles Hett, K0THN KCDX Club Secretary

Contact the Editor of the KC DX News at ab0x@kc.rr.com if you have news or comments.



***SUPPORTERS OF THE KANSAS CITY DX CLUB
KEEPING THE KCDXC DAYTON TRADITION ALIVE!***



XigExpert



ARRL
Devoted Entirely to Amateur Radio

[Public Service](#)
[Advocacy](#)
[Education](#)
[Technology](#)
[Membership](#)

[Learn More](#)

The ARRL logo features a globe with a diamond shape in the center. The letters 'A', 'V', 'R', and 'L' are arranged around the diamond. The globe is set against a dark blue background with a yellow and red border.

 **AssociatedRadio**

800.497.1457 